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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION V
POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: OCTOBER 27, 1994

FROM: PETE GURIA, OSC, RESPONSE SECTION 2, CHICAGO, IL

TO:

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CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT.....(VIA-FAX)

SUBJECT: DAVID CHEMICAL SITE, REMOVAL ACTION, CHICAGO, IL

LATITUDE: 41°51'30" LONGITUDE: 87°46'30"

POLREP NO.: 1

SITE ID NO.: XG DELIVERY ORDER NO. : 5001-05-356

RESPONSE AUTHORITY: CERCLA NPL STATUS: NON-NPL

START DATE: OCTOBER 18, 1994

COMPLETION DATE:

1. SITUATION:

- A. The David Chemical site consists of a small one story cinder block building situated in a light industrial/residential area on the west side of Chicago. The owner purportedly manufactured cleaning agents and detergents from a wide variety of chemicals, most notably, spent chromic acid plating waste (D007). Between April and August 1993, the Chicago Fire Dept. (CFD), Dept. of Environment (CDE), and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) responded to numerous release incidents at the facility. In September 1993, the IEPA initiated state criminal charges against the site owner for the improper storage and handling of RCRA listed wastes. In April 1994 the IEPA referred the site to the USEPA for assistance.
- B. During the USEPA site assessment it was noted that approximately 500 drums and an unknown number of small containers (5-gallon and less) were found in the building containing acid, caustic, oxidizing, toxic, and poisonous liquids and solids. The roof of the building was in an extremely severe state of deterioration, allowing rainwater to enter and degrade the drums and containers. The site was also frequently vandalized leading to further deterioration of the building and its contents.
- C. The site is located in an area known for prostitution, gang, and drug related activities. SDI security service providing 24 hr. armed guard protection.

- D. Site set-up almost completed. No permanent power to command post or support zone yet. Site phone: 312/626-5521; fax: 312/626-5205.

2. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- A. Mobilized ERCS contractor Riedel Environmental Services (RES) 10/18. Began delineating work zones and preparing command post area. Roof in extremely deteriorated condition. Secured two 50'x 100' poly tarps to prevent rainwater from entering. Loaded and shipped three 20 yd³ boxes of non-hazardous debris by 10/21.
- B. Prepared small room in southwest corner of building for on-site hazard categorization activities 10/20-21. The TAT and RES chemist prepared a sampling and hazcat plan, approved by the OSC, for developing waste stream groups 10/21. Began staging small containers 10/21. Hazcatting small containers began 10/25. As the small containers are characterized, their contents will be bulked into an appropriate container for disposal. 14 categories developed to date from 180 samples collected and analyzed.
- C. Drum staging pad constructed 10/24. Began staging 10/24, and sampling drummed materials 10/25.
- D. TAT providing daily air monitoring for CN, Cr, and, CO vapors during staging and sampling activities. Minor detections for CN and Cr have resulted in added awareness by drum sampling crew. CO levels have been observed hovering around the HSP action level of 35 ppm and has resulted in increased levels of protection for all personnel inside the building. CO levels are a result from the use of the bobcat and forklift inside the building.
- E. Consolidated 70 bags of copper sulfate into 2 1-cubic yard DOT shipping boxes for disposal 10/26.
- F. Hazcat results of floor sweepings have indicated elevated levels of chromium. Large amounts of dust have been generated when crew has been staging drums and removing non-haz debris. An enclosed transition zone was constructed 10/27, to ensure all contamination is contained within the hot zone.

3. PLANS:

- A. Continue sampling and hazard categorization of small containers and drums.
- B. Begin on-site bulk testing analysis once all hazcatting is complete and final waste groups are developed. Consolidate drummed materials once bulk testing has been completed.
- C. RES T&D coordinator currently arranging for disposal of identified wastes.
- D. Continue open lines of communication with local City and State officials.

4. KEY ISSUES:

- A. Local electrician slow and costly in providing service to wire trailers for permanent power. Electrician costs are estimated at \$7,000 to construct panels and prepare for Com Ed tap. OSC investigating use of portable 50KW generator to supply power to the decon and office trailers. Cost appears

to be much less and could be done immediately.

- B. City of Chicago Department of Environment providing assistance in obtaining utility hookups and miscellaneous local needs.

5. COSTS:

A. Case open;

B. Costs through 10/26/94;

	<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>TOTAL to DATE</u>	<u>REMAINING</u>
ERCS	\$ 540,000	\$ 55,444.32	\$ 484,555.68
TAT	108,000	10,960.73	97,039.27
USEPA-DIR	29,700	1,965.00	27,735.00
USEPA-INDR	54,900	3,992.85	50,907.15
TOTALS	\$ 732,600	\$ 71,762.90	\$ 660,237.10

END